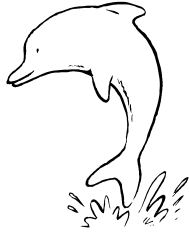


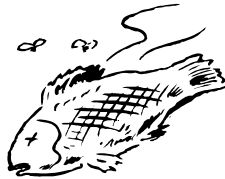
WHAT IS STORMWATER POLLUTION?

When rain flows over streets and other surfaces, it picks up pollutants and carries them into the stormwater conveyance ("storm drain") system. This system is designed to prevent flooding by transporting water away from developed areas.



However, this water is not filtered or treated, and all the contaminants it contains eventually flow to our streams, lakes, and ocean where we swim and fish.

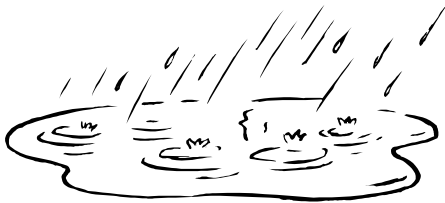
Once there, polluted runoff can harm wildlife and habitats. In some cases, it can even cause beach closures or make fish and shellfish unsafe to eat.



Pool and spa wastes are among the many common stormwater pollutants that can degrade water quality. Other examples include paint, oil, automotive fluids, construction debris, yard wastes, pesticides, litter, pet waste, and dirty wash water.



ONLY RAIN IN THE STORM DRAIN!



HOW DOES MAINTENANCE OF A POOL POLLUTE STORMWATER?

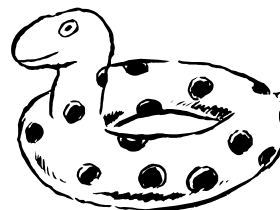
Routine pool maintenance activities generate a variety of wastes. Chlorinated pool water, backwash residues, algicides, and acid washes are a few examples. **It is illegal to dispose of these wastes to the storm drain system!**

Instead, contact the local sewer agency regarding disposal of such wastes to the sanitary sewer. A list of wastewater agencies appears on the back of this brochure.

A common stormwater complaint is disposal of backwash to the street and storm drain system. The backwash leaves a residue of diatomaceous earth (DE) and other wastes along the gutter and streets. **This is not a legal method to dispose of backwash.** If possible, backwash liquid should be discharged to the sanitary sewer, after particulates have been removed. In the absence of a sanitary sewer, a catch basin should be installed to remove the DE prior to draining it onto a landscaped area. The size of the catch basin would have to be large enough to house the DE filters.

Significant changes to pools and spas may require building permits. Contact the building department in your area for requirements.

Pool drain water may be disposed to the storm drain system only if the chlorine is below 1 part per million and only if the water contains no other contaminants.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR POOL & SPA MAINTENANCE

MAINTAINING POOLS & SPAS

- Prevent algae growth with routine cleaning, maintaining adequate chlorine levels and maintenance of pump and filter systems.
- If use of algicide or other chemicals are necessary, contact the local sewer agency for discharge requirements. Some sewer agencies may not allow disposal of chemical wastes to the sewer.
- Read and follow manufacturer's recommendations for chemical use.

DRAINING POOLS & SPAS

- Drain pool water to the sanitary sewer whenever possible. Pool water may be drained to the storm drain **only if** the water contains less than 1 part per million chlorine **and** does not contain any other pollutants.
- Contact the local sewer agency for flow rate restrictions and handling of special cleaning waste like acid wash.
- Maintain an air gap to prevent back flow, when discharging pool water to the sewer. (Do not seal the connection between hose and sewer line.)
- Septic systems cannot accommodate the volume of water from draining a swimming pool or spa. Pool owners may want to consider converting DE filter systems to the canister type, which would eliminate the use of diatomaceous earth.

FILTER CLEANING

- Never clean or rinse a filter into the street, storm drain or sewer.
- Rinse cartridge filters into a container or retention basin to settle out waste. Bag and dispose of residue to the trash.

FOR MORE INFORMATION



For Emergency
Chemical Spills **9-1-1**



To report non-emergency spills
Toll-Free (888) 846-0800



County of San Diego, Environmental
Health Duty Specialist
(619) 338-2379



County of San Diego
Building Department
(858) 565-5920

WASTEWATER AGENCIES



County of San Diego, Public Works
(858) 514-4990



Encina Wastewater Authority
(760) 438-3941



Fallbrook Public Utilities
(760) 728-1125



City of Oceanside Water Utilities
(760) 435-5800



Padre Dam Municipal Water
(619) 258-4600



Ramona M.W.D.
(760) 789-1330



City of San Diego Metro Waste
(858) 292-6300



San Elijo Waste Water
(760) 753-0352



project clean water

"clean water through local commitment and action"

Call us for more information:

(888) 846-0800

Or visit us at our web site:

www.sdcdpw.org

or

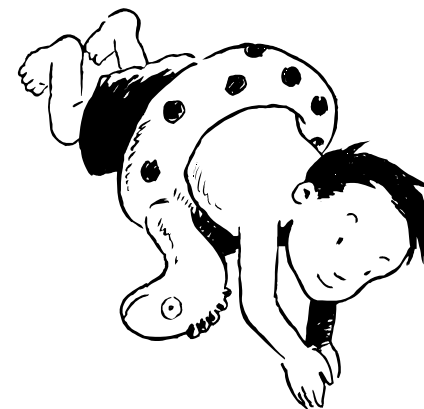
www.projectcleanwater.org



County Code §67.805 prohibits the discharge
of anything but rainwater to the stormwater
conveyance system or receiving waters.

STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

PRIVATE POOLS & SPAS



County of San Diego
Watershed Protection Program

